



# COMMUTER LINES

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 2

2ND QUARTER 2005

## Coalition distributes printed emergency evacuation maps

A coalition – comprised of State Police, DOTD, the state Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP), and the American Red Cross – held a news conference Friday, June 17, to announce the start of map distribution.

### MAPS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

#### ◆ American Red Cross, Southeast Louisiana Chapter offices:

– 2640 Canal St., New Orleans  
– 1231 Canal Blvd., Thibodaux  
– 619 N. Tyler St., Suite D, Covington

◆ **Lowe's:** all stores in Jefferson, Orleans, St. John, St. Charles, Lafourche, Terrebonne and St. Tammany parishes (south of I-12).

◆ **Home Depot:** all stores in Jefferson, Orleans, St. John, St. Charles, Lafourche, Terrebonne and St. Tammany parishes (south of I-12)

◆ **Wal-Mart:** all stores in Jefferson, Orleans, St. John, St. Charles, Lafourche, Terrebonne, St. Mary, St. Tammany and Washington parishes (south of I-12)

DOTD Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry said to use the map properly, residents should decide where to go, read the map thoroughly and write down a personal evacuation plan.

The coalition urges residents to take the following steps:

1. Come up with your own personal evacuation plan BEFORE the need for an evacuation arises. Each resident should



*DOTD Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry addresses attendees at a news conference June 17 to announce the start of map distribution.*

know where you are going and how to get there.

2. Expect traffic delays. It is impossible for Louisiana's road structure to handle a full-scale evacuation without motorists' experiencing delays. The 11 lanes out of the metro New Orleans area during contraflow can handle a maximum of 18,000 cars an hour.

3. If a storm is approaching, leave as early as you can. The sooner you leave, the safer you will be.

The new evacuation plan, developed by a State Police-DOTD task force, is the culmination of eight

**See MAPS, page 4**

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# BITS AND PIECES

JOHNNY B. BRADBERRY, SECRETARY

## Personal safety starts with each of us

We've talked a lot about public safety recently – the safety of our roads, the safety of our railroad crossings – but I'd like to focus for a moment on our own safety. Nine people died and 904 people were injured in Louisiana's work zones in 2003, the most recent year for which figures are available from the federal Fatality Analysis Reporting System.

We recently commemorated Work Zone Awareness Week and filled the front lawn of our headquarters building and many of our district offices with hundreds of orange work zone cones. The "cone memorials" were a poignant reminder of the need to keep safety foremost in our minds when we are on the job.

Safety, the cliché goes, is never an accident. It is good that we develop the habit of always wearing appropriate safety apparel on the job, for example. But habits can become automatic, and the

risk is that we let those habits override our conscious thinking. In other words, we may put on our safety vests, hard hats, etc., strictly out of habit without even giving a thought as to why we wear them.

I'm proud of DOTD's safety record, and I appreciate seeing our crews in full safety gear when they're on the job. I believe that safety is about "individual leadership." I hope we take a minute each day to remind ourselves why we developed these habits in the first place and never take our personal safety for granted. Remember, safety starts with each one of us.



### ON THE ROAD WITH BRADBERRY (Abbreviated Calendar)

#### March 2005

2-4 Washington, D.C.  
8 Millennium Port Authority  
9 LTM Board of Directors  
16 DOTD organizational rationalization  
28-30 New York visit

#### April 2005

6 Joint transportation meeting  
7 Shreveport editorial board meeting  
8 Change Management executive level planning workshop  
12-14 New York visit  
19 I-49 Coalition dinner

#### May 2005

3 North Louisiana Delegation and constituent meeting  
4 Employee Recognition Program

10 Railroad meeting with LMA and the Police Jury Association  
19 Signed TIFIA loan for La. 1 improvements  
Project meeting with Lafayette Chamber of Commerce  
23 Kick-off meeting for district rationalization  
25 Northshore project visits

#### June 2005

2 LAPA  
7 Change Management reorganization issues  
15 Rural Caucus lunch  
16 Grand Isle  
17 Hurricane Evacuation News Conference  
27-28 NHI Course (Federal Aid Highways)

#### SECRETARY

Johnny B. Bradberry

#### DEPUTY SECRETARY

Cedric Grant

#### COMMUTER LINES STAFF

Mark Lambert

Cleo Allen

Lindsay Bergeron

Sherry Dupre



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## DOTD plans to rebid La. 1 toll project with modifications

Faced with a bid nearly \$100 million higher than anticipated for the first phase of the La. 1 toll project, the DOTD announced July 1 that it has begun the process to reject the bids opened June 29 in order to rebid the project with modifications.

Department Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry said the decision came after meetings with the original bidders, bond rating agencies and the companies that provided the original estimate for the project to rebuild a portion of the only road leading to Port Fourchon and the barrier island of Grand Isle.

The department originally received bids from two contractor groups for Phase I, which will replace the old bridge over Bayou Lafourche at Leeville and build an elevated section to Port Fourchon. The James Construction/Flatiron LLC group was the apparent low bidder at \$251,860,090. The Massman/Trailer Brothers LLC group was the second bidder at \$254,599,496.32.

The department had projected construction costs in the range of \$154 million — \$97 million less than the lowest bid received.

Bradberry called the decision to rebid “the only viable course for the department.”

The secretary, who is committed to applying business principles to the governmental agency, added, “I will not allow this project or any other to cost more than the worst-case scenario, which in this case would be to start from scratch.”

Bradberry said the department remains committed to collecting tolls on a new La. 1 roadway before 2009.

“Through re-issuance of the bid, we’re hopeful that we’ll see more competition. And we fully expect to be within the original estimate and within an acceptable time frame to meet department obligations with respect to financing.”

Department officials are working with federal highway officials and consultants comparing unit prices in the bids and in the estimates to determine where the disparities lie and to fully understand the higher pricetag.



*Artist's rendering of planned elevated roadway on La. 1. The new road is to the left.*

Already, Bradberry said, findings indicate the department should consider changing the schedule to complete the work and the possibility of dividing the project to allow multiple companies to participate in building the project.

Bradberry noted that one issue that is out of the department's area of influence is the high volume of bridge work under way in Southern states.

For example, he said, “Florida alone has undertaken some \$1 billion in bridge construction, so the precast concrete industry is really maxed out.”

After the department firms up its proposal revisions, the project must be advertised for bids 30 days ahead of the letting (when bids are opened and publicly read). Then comes committee review and contract paperwork.

Meanwhile, the secretary requested Wilbur Smith & Associates and SJB Group Inc. — the outside agencies that provided the original \$154 million projection — to report, at their expense, a rationale for the huge disparity in pricing.

The agencies' estimates and that of DOTD personnel all projected estimated costs within 1 percent of each other.

The department has worked for the past three years with the La. 1 Coalition and other statewide and local stakeholders on the La. 1 toll project.

**See LA. 1, page 4**



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# DOTD celebrates State Employee Recognition Day

In observance of State Employee Recognition Day, held May 4, each floor of the DOTD headquarters building hosted a celebration.

In addition, DOTD gave special recognition to employees with 20-, 25-, 30- and 35-year service awards, as well as to the employee of the quarter, manager of the quarter, and best team effort of the quarter during an employee recognition ceremony.



**Above:** DOTD Assistant Secretaries Ed Preau and Gordon Nelson serve cake to DOTD employees on the third floor of the headquarters building.



**Above:** DOTD Deputy Secretary Cedric Grant draws a winner for the fourth floor's lottery.



**Left:** DOTD Deputy Secretary Cedric Grant congratulates Wilma Chustz and Joan Black on 35 years of state service.

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## LA. 1 (from page 3)

DOTD signed an agreement May 19 with the U.S. Department of Transportation for a \$66 million loan from the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, or TIFIA, the first for the state, to help fund construction. The loan will

be repaid through tolls that initially will range from \$12 for commercial trucks to 50 cents for area residents.

Other revenue sources include state, local, and other federal highway funds.

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## MAPS (from page 1)

months of intensive, collaborative effort that features staged evacuations, better traffic management, more and better highway signage, a revised contraflow plan, a 24-hour Traffic Control Center and a comprehensive map that details traffic routes.

Before the map was printed, DOTD took the unusual step of convening focus groups in the New Orleans area to critique the map and make suggestions. The focus group process was invaluable in helping the state produce a map that was understandable and accurate, Bradberry said.

Families and groups can call the American Red Cross to participate in presentations on how to use

the maps to plan their evacuation routes.

The initial printing of 1 million maps was funded by the American Red Cross and the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

The map and new contraflow plan are available online on the following sites: State Police at [www.lsp.org](http://www.lsp.org); OHSEP at [www.ohsep.louisiana.gov](http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov); DOTD at [www.dotd.louisiana.gov](http://www.dotd.louisiana.gov); and the American Red Cross, [www.preparelouisiana.redcross.org](http://www.preparelouisiana.redcross.org). Now the same information is accessible to South Louisiana households so each can start now to develop a personal evacuation plan.

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## 'Slow down or pay up' message for Louisiana's Work Zone Awareness Week

Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco proclaimed the last two weeks of May as an extended Work Zone Awareness Week. Louisiana State Police, in cooperation with DOTD and the Federal Highway Administration, highlighted enforcement of lower speeds in several work zones throughout the state.

Activities for Work Zone Awareness Week in-



*The Work Zone Memorial Wall, a national memorial to all those killed in work zones, was displayed in DOTD's headquarters lobby.*



*DOTD's Cone Memorial was placed on the front lawn of its headquarters building on Capitol Access Road.*

cluded a Cone Memorial on the front lawn of DOTD headquarters and a national Work Zone Memorial Wall in the headquarters lobby, in honor of each of the 1,028 people killed nationwide in work zones in 2003.

Also, in an effort to inform citizens of the extra caution needed while driving through work zones, Col. Henry Whitehorn, Louisiana State Police superintendent, lent his voice to a radio public service announcement aimed at alerting motorists to the need for slower speeds in work zones.

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## DOTD appoints first female district administrator

The first woman district administrator has been named in DOTD.

Connie Standige has been named to manage District 62 in the Hammond area, replacing Robert Roth, who recently retired. Standige, a civil engineer with 23 years' experience with DOTD, most recently was assistant district maintenance engineer in District 02 in the New Orleans area.

"We're so pleased to have Connie accept this position," said Gordon Nelson, assistant secretary for operations, to whom Standige reports. "Her considerable experience in the areas over which she'll preside and her great management skills make her unquestionably the best person for the job."

Standige, a New Orleans native, earned her bachelor's degree in civil engineering from LSU in 1982 and went to work as a construction engineer in District 04 in Shreveport. In the ensuing years, she also has handled design and maintenance duties.

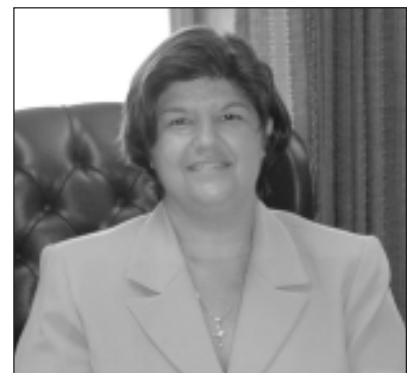
District 62, one of nine in the state, includes the parishes of Livingston, St. Helena, St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington. Standige

will oversee construction, maintenance, traffic and design projects in the area and supervise a staff of 363.

Standige said the main projects under way in District 62 are construction of the crossovers for emergency evacuation contraflow in Slidell and Hammond and the raising of Interstate 55 near Ponchatoula.

"I look forward to working with officials in the area on their needs," said Standige. "I'm pleased and excited to be appointed."

"I'm following in the steps of Mr. Roth, whom I greatly admire and respect. I hope to continue the progress he's made in the district. And I look forward to getting to know the area, promoting progressive and innovative ideas, and continuing to provide excellent customer service."



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## NEWS BRIEFS

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During the week of State Employee Recognition Day, held May 4, Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco applauded three state employees for their outstanding delivery of services to citizens.

DOTD's Terri Hammack, a licensed professional civil engineer with 21 years of experience with the department, was among the employees the governor thanked for their dedication and hard

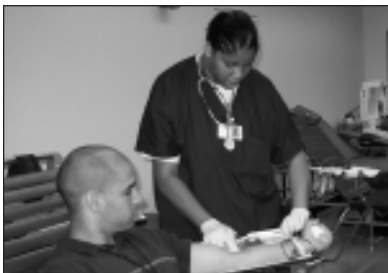


*DOTD's Terri Hammack, second from right, was recognized by Gov. Blanco, center.*



DOTD recently announced that Sherri Labas, Rhett Desselle, Ann Willis and Mark Chenevert were selected as DOTD Change Management Program team members. These individuals bring to the team a wealth of knowledge, diversity of backgrounds, energy and innovativeness. Also, Gerrie Penn accepted the position of DOTD management consultant to support the Change Management program. She brings to DOTD years of change management and performance measurement leadership experience.

Support for these individuals will be crucial as DOTD begins to implement the 129 recommendations developed by the process improvement teams and initiates activities on the next series of processes to be examined.



*Dawn Wilson of The Blood Center bandages DOTD employee Ryan Reviere after he gave blood.*



The second of three blood donation drives in 2005 at DOTD was a success, with 27 pints of blood donated Tuesday, June 21.

Janelle Coates, territory representative of The Blood Center, said she was happy to have reached 90 percent of the center's goal of 30 pints for the day. She thanked those who donated and those who made the attempt.

DOTD hosts three blood drives a year. The first, in January, was sponsored by United Blood Services. The third and final event this year will be held Tuesday, Oct. 4, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the headquarters' auditorium for Our Lady of the Lake.



DOTD, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) and the city of Baton Rouge are working together to improve the appearance of the interstate soundwalls.

Beginning June 6, approximately 20 inmates from the Dixon Correctional Institute began to clear tall grass and brush from the areas around the soundwalls where landscaping has been installed along both sides of I-10 and I-12 in Baton Rouge. The inmate trusty crews are being supervised by correctional officers equipped with radios and telephones.

After the July Fourth weekend, the inmates began working on phase 2 of the project, which involves installed hardwood mulch on the cleared areas to retain moisture for landscaping, reduce weed growth and ease the mowing of grass.



Michael DeSelle, company commander for the 528th Engineer Battalion, presented Secretary Bradberry and DOTD with an American flag May 17. The flag is a sign of appreciation for the show of support by DOTD employees for the battalion throughout their year in Afghanistan. The flag was flown on a combat mission on a Super Cobra Attack Helicopter in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. DeSelle works in District 08 as an assistant project engineer and has been a member of the National Guard for 14 years.



*DOTD's Michael DeSelle, left, presents Secretary Bradberry with a U.S. flag.*



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# PERSONNEL UPDATES

(JANUARY 2005-MAY 2005)

## NEW HIRES

### DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Donna Gaspar Battaglia; Jason P. Bouvier; Earl Clay; Morene Cornelius, III; Derek P. Edmonston; Ressie P. Fairley; Lynota Lacoye Foley; Steven Joseph Foret, Jr.; Brandon M. Griffin; Rose Lavonne Henry; Melvin Howard; Chuck D. Mataya; John S. Milstead; Willie D. Morgan; Lacretia Morr; Melanie Lynne Nowlin; Andrea M. Patrick; Tyrrell Wile Reinhardt; Andre Randolph, Sr.; Dorothy H. Robinson; Melissa C. Scott; Delmus J. Stewart, III; and Derrell Williams

### DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE

Jason M. Babineaux; Sidney Troy Barras; Scottie M. Boudreaux; Louis J. Boutte; John Derral Chapman; Edwins Collins; Thomas J. Cormier; Toby J. Cormier; Marc L. Doucet; Brian P. Fontenot; Jacob Warren Fontenot; Jeremy A. Harmon; Jimmy Dale Hebert; Mona Marie Istre; Dannie J. Labit; David K. Lee; Ethan D. Matte; Joshua Meaux; Anthony Morgan, Jr.; Craig Joseph Segura; Allen J. Smith, Jr.; James C. Smith; and Dwayne Paul Theriot

### DISTRICT 04 – BOSSIER CITY

Stephen Michael Adamson; Melton Earl Faulk, Jr.; David Gary Keener; Daniel Arthur Palmer; Kyle D. Rogers; James Andrew Shepard; Jacklon D. Stiles; Donald Ray Turner; Boss Felton Walker; and Shawn Wayne Welborn

### DISTRICT 05 – MONROE

Roy Lee Baker; Gary M. Brinson; David Mar Blocker, Jr.; Jimmy L. Densmore, II; Rodney E. Lightsey; and Phillip David Wheelis

### DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

Kimble Dean Bellard; Kenneth Bushnell, Jr.; Rachel Renee Cross; Michael L. Fletcher; Clint J. Fontenot; Denise Rachelle Holden; Bobby L. Laboure; Larry Leday; Benjamin T. Morel; Christopher L. Nugent; Patrick R. Peshoff; Tyson J. Thevis; Joseph Thomas; Cheryl Ann Trahan; Fred Wayne Trahan; Robert Ed Whiteman, Jr.; and Robert J. Williams

### DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

Charles K. Allen; Damon Rashad Archinard; Cecil M. Avery, III; Donald Ray Ballard; Cory J. Bonnette; Marilyn Marie Bryan; Rusty Bryant; Blaine L. Buchanan; Markell D. Francis; Jeral Lee Friels; James K. Johnson; Eric Sean Methvin; Joshua M. Normand; John Scott Normand; Christopher Nugent; Jennifer Morris Riojas; Brian K. Rosenthal; Jason L. Smith; Charles Wayne Tam; Heath W. Wallace; Jason T. Williams; and Johnny R. Worsham

### DISTRICT 58 – CHASE

James Trent Bradley; Kenneth David Cotton; David Greig Eley; Michael Joseph Riley; and Malcolm Lynn Strozier

### DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

John David Buckley; Brad A. Duplessis; Michelle Jane Gray; Charles Gregory Holliday; Raymond H. Linton, Jr.; Darryl E. Pourciau; and Bruce F. Wall

### DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

Ricardo U. Burris; David Abraham Ciolino; David M. Coley; Daniel Jacob Cooper; Charles M. Elfer; Monica Moak Frazier; Michael Shane

Jackson; John A. Matherne; Kara Lea Norred; Dorman Andrew Rick; Anthony W. Robinson; Marshall D. Smith; Joshua C. Taylor; and David C. Tregre

### HEADQUARTERS & OTHER

Lydia Ray Alcee; Cleo Joffrion Allen; Larry Anderson; Monique Delafosse Ard; Lindsay K. Bergeron; Timothy Scott Bircher; Audrey Marie Boskent; Stella B. Bossom; Peggy C. Brandes; Judith L. Brown; Stacey Rene Brown; Sabastian Calvey, Sr.; Gregory J. Coco; Robert T. Cutting; Blair E. Daggs; William Davis, Jr.; Angela Nicole Deberry; James Joseph Dillard; Irma Hurst Dixon; Sherry Market Ducote; Frank Dunning, Jr.; Sherry L. Dupre; Josh Michael Eldridge; Gregory L. Ellzey; Rebekeh Kroek Esneault; Louis E. Fahrman, Jr.; Michael John Gerrets; Mindy L. Gibson; Brandon A. Golson; Gerald W. Graves, Jr.; Hunter M. Heath; Jeffrey R. Heath; Michael Helmstetter, Jr.; Elun Hsu; Linda A. Jackson; Nezida B. Jarreau; David A. Jarvis; Jamaal E. Jones; Jonathon Kirk Ladatto; Ronetta M. Lagarde; Charles J. Lardner; Steven Donald Luthy; Michael Joseph McKey; Kerry McKinney, Jr.; Willie I. McKnight; Countney R. Mundy; Lela Jo Murphy; Jessica Kate Muse; Marcella Marie Petty; Maia A. Prosper; Sarah Emily Ragona; Amanda W. Ratcliff; Phyllis Ratliff; Clarence Derrel Rogers; Barton Lee Rumsey; Juanita J. Saltzman; Jacalyn Sarah Schiro; Angela Yeager Simmons; G. Warren Simmons, III; Timothy Daniel Thomas; Marcus Dwayne Venible; Rachell Deshawn Ward; Mark A. Williams, Sr.; and Dicie D. Wynters

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## PERSONNEL UPDATES *(continued from page 9)*

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### PROMOTIONS

#### DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Lorne T. Cortez; Clyde M. Davis; Peter Deveer; Jason M. Fauchaux; Jacquell D. Flagg; Latashia T. Fly; Loren Thomas Lebioda; Monique M. Ledet; O.V. Planche, III; and Ronald Douglas Till

#### DISTRICT 03 — LAFAYETTE

Clayton P. Albert; Thomas J. Broussard; David Leon Brown; Chad M. Champagne; Merline Ann Coleman; Allen G. Gerard Jr.; Terry Joe Shawback; Robert James Thibodeaux; and Woody J. Touchet

#### DISTRICT 04 – BOSSIER CITY

Terry J. Campbell; Timothy Neal Cryer; Jessie Franklin Davis; Donnie W. Dixon; James Paul Hollier, Jr.; and Monty C. Long

#### DISTRICT 05 — MONROE

Bobby Wayne Eppinette; Lawana J. Lightsey; and Lee Ann Stapleton

#### DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

Derek Dwayne Edwards; Jimmy Jones; Steven R. Labouve; Mathieu Paul Lebleu; Paul Lee Manuel; Ricky J. Manuel; and Jesse S. Theriot

#### DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

Tommy Lee Holder, Jr.; Amy Knight; and Phil Chris Rachal

#### DISTRICT 58 – CHASE

Jimmy R. Busby; J. Freeman; and James S. Peters

#### DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

Olen Batiste, Jr.; Charles R. Ellis; Ronnie Gibson; Frederick Roosevelt Hawkins; Kerry J. Miletello; and Nick A. Rabalais

#### DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

Jo Anne Addison; Clay E. Hollowell; Stephen Lynell Jones; Marshall S. Lee; Charles D. Smith, Jr.; and Jason B. Thompson

#### HEADQUARTERS & OTHER

John J. Adamo; Raylen Bass; Jamie Lemoine Blanchard; Jarrod Jackson Brown; Ellen Vrene Catherine; William P. Caudill, III; Dean P. Coolbeth; Carl E. Courville; Mary Ann Efferson; Deon Cambre Felder; James T. Fife, II; Ingrid Winifred Francis; Lisa Annette Fuller; Diedre St. Romain Hill; Theresa L. Hymel; Christopher J. Israel; Matthew A. Istre; Charles V. Jesclard, III; Traci T. Johnson; Linda R. Kimmel; Keri Olivier Labauve; Nguyet Anh Le; Darryl Wayne Mack; Peter Eugene Maggioro; Susan S. Pellegrin; Karen Landry Robert; Tonyic Lachelle Robertson; Michael L. Schmitt; Dawnya B. Young

### RETIREMENTS

#### DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Roxie B. Belton; Charles A. Bourg; H.L. Calkins, Jr.; Frank J. Oser; and Reynold J. Pinel

#### DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE

Lionel Burke Deville, Jr.; Stanley J. Hebert; Charles V. Russo; and Harold J. Trahan;

#### DISTRICT 04 – BOSSIER CITY

Jimmy W. Brown; Kenneth Dee Dison; James A. Durey; W. A. Livingston; and James M. Smith

#### DISTRICT 05 – MONROE

Kathleen W. Burgess; Glenn T. Copes; Melvin E. Crawford; F. L. Cumpton; Gary Dean Icenogle; Earl J. Nelson; and Frank H. Nolan

#### DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

Richard E. Deville; Jerry N. Granger; and Donald H. Prather

#### DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

Justin J. Chatelain; Jimmie David Coke; Dexter P. Edwards; Beauregard P. Lacombe, Jr.; Billie R. Leonard; Jerry W. Mitchell, Jr.; David Neal Rachal; Victor Rachal, Jr.; Wayne L. Rister; and Ronnie F. Taylor

#### DISTRICT 58 – CHASE

Ronnie Busby; Nathan S. Lilly; J. M. Martin; and Alfred Thomas, Jr.

#### DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

Sallie Marie Burton; Romauld J. Bourque; Karl K. Kepper; Vincent D. Redden; and Gilbert P. Taillon;

#### DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

Alphonse Baker, Jr.; Jessie James Berne; Ursula G. Holmes; Harold K. Newman; Robert P. Roth, Jr.; and James H. Sharp;

#### HEADQUARTERS & OTHER

Huey Hines Austin; Sidney J. Babin Jr.; Carla H. Bankston; Don L. Bernard; Donald A. Chaisson; Nathan L. Crawford, Jr.; Jenny Lind David; Jo Ann Felder; Betty Jo Gillespie; Robert L. Hamilton; Mary Kay Henderson; Jackie S. Hyatt; Elizabeth A. Ladner; Jacob B. Matthews; A. Richard McElveen; John K. Novak; Sheila Ann Pearson; James E. Porche; William A. Rogers; Ronnie Dale Smith; Richard R. Steele; Barbara H. Taylor; Cynthia E. Templet; and Karl G. Vercher

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# QUARTERLY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS (QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 2004)

## Headquarters

### Employee of the Quarter

Karen Barousse

### Manager of the Quarter

Bernadette Lawrence

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Susan Nichols and Freddie Gardner

### Secretary's Award of Excellence

Regina Jackson, Patrick Theriot and David Butler

## District 02

### Employee of the Quarter

James Kapesis

### Manager of the Quarter

Joseph Narcisse

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Willie Calloway, Leonard Johnson, Freddie Lyons and Roger Johnson

## District 03

### Employee of the Quarter

Lyle Taylor

### Manager of the Quarter

None

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

None

## District 04

### Employee of the Quarter

Donnie Dixon

### Manager of the Quarter

Willie Byrd

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Roy Tubbs, James Bison, Grady Hardman, John Kennedy, Gary May and Dennis Rushing

## District 05

### Employee of the Quarter

Vincent C. Giovino

### Manager of the Quarter

Ricky Gross

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Paige Tharp, Frank Cravens, Kevin McLeod, Brad Smith, Casundra Downs, Ricky Gross and John Eason

## District 07

### Employee of the Quarter

Barbara Graskie

### Manager of the Quarter

Paul LeBleu

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Tony Dansby, Steve Stelly, Eddie Smith and Steve Young

## District 08

### Employee of the Quarter

None

### Manager of the Quarter

Cephas Bowie, Jr.

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Bobby Bynog, Billy Jackson, Charles Stokes and John Weatherford

## District 58

### Employee of the Quarter

Michael Henry

### Manager of the Quarter

Johnny Duchesne

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Gary Killingsworth and Debbie Beard

## District 61

### Employee of the Quarter

Natasha Russell

### Manager of the Quarter

Danny Schon

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

Linda Dunn, Zoalee Hayes and Wanda Jarreau

## District 62

### Employee of the Quarter

Kenneth Warren

### Manager of the Quarter

Jesse McClendon

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

John Hodges, Randy Giacone, Ricky Pourciau, Jack Pravata and Mike Bentivegna

## CCCD

### Employee of the Quarter

Clem Sparkman

### Manager of the Quarter

Jacob Matthew, Sr.

### Best Team Effort of the Quarter

None

## Technology Transfer

The following became certified inspectors between January 1, 2005 and May 31, 2005:

**Asphaltic Concrete Plant Inspection**  
Michael D. Elliott Section 33

### Portland Cement Concrete Paving Inspection

Scott J. Courville	District 02
Brady M. Giroir	District 02
John R. Fontenot	District 04
Michael C. Graf	District 04
Dustin H. Hickman	District 04
Dennis D. Ingles, Jr.	District 04\
Christopher P. Mason	District 04
Lowell J. Poland	District 05
Ricky D. Gross	District 05

### Structural Concrete Inspection

Peter Deveer	District 02
Edward S. Newsom	District 03
Brian Edward Chelette	District 04
Dustin H. Hickman	District 04
Johnny Kent Morgan	District 07

### Asphaltic Concrete Paving Inspection

John C. Adams	District 02
Cornel Manuel	District 02
Brian P. Orticke	District 02
Renea Angel Wise	District 04
Bradley K. Trichel	District 05
Otis Paul White, Jr.	District 58
Jacquelyne P. Wenning	District 03
Jeffery B. Mercer	District 08
Michael Todd Walters	District 58

### Embankment and Base Course Inspection

Thomas K. Johnson	District 08
Raymond T. Stump	District 58
Otis Paul White, Jr.	District 58

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# HR HOT TOPICS

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## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES (PS) PAY SCHEDULE**

The Civil Service Commission will consider an approximate 13 percent adjustment to all PS pay range maximums at its July Pay Hearing. If approved by the commission, the proposal will be forwarded to the governor for consideration. Note: Civil Service plans to review all pay schedules on a cyclical basis; this study of the PS Pay Plan is the first of such reviews following the implementation of the six separate pay plans.

## **PPM 52**

DOTD's Pay Policy has been revised, effective July 1, to include provisions for payment of fees for professional licenses, certifications and memberships in professional organizations. This PPM can be found on human resource's Web site: [www.dotd.state.la.us/hresources](http://www.dotd.state.la.us/hresources).

## **47TH ANNUAL CHARLES E. DUNBAR, JR. CAREER SERVICE AWARDS**

The Louisiana Civil Service League is requesting nominations in July for this award, which is the highest honor a classified state employee can receive for his/her service to the citizens of Louisiana. Nominees are judged on commitment to the classified service, contributions toward workplace improvement, personal initiative, and volunteer community service. Nominations must be submitted to the human resources section by July 29. More information may be obtained at [www.dscs.state.la.us/PROGASST/Gencirc/GENCIRC05/001613.pdf](http://www.dscs.state.la.us/PROGASST/Gencirc/GENCIRC05/001613.pdf).

## **HR RECEIVES AWARD**

The HR Section recently received recognition from the Louisiana Chapter of the International Personnel Management Association (IPMA) for high achievement in developing and administering its Online Employee Suggestion Box. This Chapter Achievement Award is designed to encourage innovation and high standards in human resources management.

## **HR STAFFING CHANGES**

■ HR bids farewell to Farilyn Dupuy, assistant HR director, who recently retired after 30 years of dedicated DOTD service. HR and many others will certainly miss Farilyn. Susan Pellegrin, who previously managed the HR Compensation Unit, has been promoted to the assistant director position.

■ HR warmly welcomes Peggy Brandes who has been appointed to the HR Trainer position, replacing Ranzy Montet, who was promoted last December.

■ HR also welcomes its newest members, Sarah Ragona and Angela DeBerry, management interns who are working in HR's Compensation Unit.

## **"PERFORMANCE PLANNING AND REVIEW FOR SUPERVISORS" CLASS**

Training materials are being updated to reflect revised procedures resulting from the PPR rating cycle change. Appointing authorities have been notified of supervisors who need this class; applications to schedule training should be submitted on the CPTP Training Request Form to Gordon Smith, CPTP Coordinator, at LTRC.

## **HOUSE BILL 311/ACT 75**

House Bill 311/Act 75 has been signed by the Governor during the 2005 Legislative Session. This bill modifies the current retirement system for new employees hired after July 1, 2006. For such employees, retirement eligibility will change from 30 years at any age, 25 years of service at age 55, 10 years of service at age 60, or 20 years actuarially reduced, to 10 or more years of service at age 60. Employee contribution rates will change from the current 7.5 percent to 8 percent, and the average compensation will change from the 36 highest months of successive employment to the highest 60 months.

# Letters We Like



Dear DOTD,

On Monday, May 9, three ladies of advanced age (the youngest being 63 years old) set out to enjoy an afternoon together, after not seeing each other for quite some time. We had just entered I-10 going west and we were almost to the 610 split when the car we were in made a noise and the motor killed. Luckily we were able to pull over to the emergency lane.

As you can imagine, we were more than a little nervous, so we were trying to arrange for a tow truck when a Motorist Assistance van pulled up. The young man who got out of the van approached our vehicle and asked if he could be of any help.

We arranged for a tow truck to come get the vehicle and were prepared to wait for them. However, it was quite warm and the wait could possibly have been as much as one hour. The young man suggested that we sit in his van with the air conditioning so we would be comfortable. He was very polite, and I'm sure he could see that we were nervous, so he kept us talking about any number of things. Since I only live about five minutes away from where the breakdown occurred, he offered to drive us to my house. Thanks to him, an event which could have been very traumatic turned out to be an enjoyable afternoon as we kept our plans to spend the afternoon together.

I would like to express my thanks and let you know how much I appreciate all of the help we were given.

Sincerely,  
Annie S. Bruno  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. John Oglesby,

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how helpful and pleasant Sharon Knight is when I call the Contracts Management section. Whenever I have a question, she is always able to answer it or assist me in getting the answer. I truly appreciate the courteous and prompt attention she gives my requests.

Sincerely,  
Linda P. Keller  
Engineering Administrative Assistant  
Massman Construction Co.  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Ms. Cyndi Bruner-Wilkerson,

My family and I were traveling through your state recently taking my daughter back to Arizona. We were starting our second day of a four-day trip when we came upon the Atchafalaya Welcome Center. We had commented on how spectacular the ride was along the bridge with all the different plant life. Your staff at the welcome center was friendly, warm and inviting. We enjoyed the displays and the movie presentation. It was informative and relaxing. We wished we had something like that in our home state of Florida. Please extend our well wishes to your staff for a job well done. Your area of the state is a beautiful oasis along a long stretch of road.

Sincerely,  
The Finch Family  
Palm Bay, Florida

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## Free credit reports now available

Free copies of credit reports became available in Louisiana effective June 1, and DOTD Federal Credit Union officials are offering two cautionary notes.

The first is that the free copies of your credit report omit an important item – your credit score. The credit bureaus will provide the scores for a fee, and so does BALANCE, a credit union service.

The second is that e-mails regarding the Annual Credit Report Request Service should be viewed with caution because of the potential for fraud.

Equifax, Experian and TransUnion now provide a free credit report through a central ordering site once every 12 months. You may request all three at once or stagger them throughout the year.

Request the report online ([www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)) for immediate viewing. Requests via phone or mail will take about 15 days. Call (877) 322-8228 or write to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

The one drawback, however, to the free reports is the lack of a credit score, the number used to de-

termine whether to extend credit and at what rate. BALANCE, the credit

union's free financial fitness program, offers a low-cost credit report and score along with educational materials that explain the content, how to handle inaccuracies and how to prevent identity theft.

Credit union officials also caution members not to reply to or click on any e-mail message link that claims to be affiliated with the Annual Credit Report Request Service. This agency, the only authorized source for the free report, does not send e-mails requesting personal information. So if you receive such an e-mail, it's probably a scam.

For other financial tips, visit [www.balancepro.net](http://www.balancepro.net). For information on how to become a credit union member, call (225) 387-5646 or (800) 436-8328 or visit [www.ladotdfcu.org](http://www.ladotdfcu.org).

